(c) Draft replies to such communications should be put up within 10 days of the date from which the reference has been received in the Directorate and in cases where information is to be called for from the Railways, within 15 days.

Superfast train between Delhi and Haridwar

†1892. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to run a new superfast train from Delhi to Haridwar;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the work in this regard is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) It is proposed to introduce 2055/2056 New Delhi-Dehradun Jan Shatabdi Express with stoppage at Haridwar during 2002-2003.

(c) Does not arise.

Railway claims for compensation

1893. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims of compensation pending in R.C.T. as on 31st March, 2002;

(b) the number of claims pending for more than three to five years and more; and

(c) what are the precise reasons for the inordinate delay in the settlement of claim cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) 27125 number of claims cases are pending.

(b) 5493 cases are pending for three to five years, and 5310 cases are pending for more than five years.

†*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi*

(c) The reasons for delay in settlement of cases are as under:

(i) A large number of vacancies of Members.

(ii) Out of 27125, 6032 Public Sector Undertakings cases were stayed *sine die* till March, 98 in view of Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 11.10.91, which were re-opened subsequently in view of the revised orders dated 8.12.98 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(iii) Non-availability of heirship title with the claimants.

(iv) Adjournments sought by the applicants/their counsels for producing their witnesses or other evidence.

(v) Transfer of claims from one Bench to the other, sought by the claimants.

Royalty by the Railways to Orissa

1894. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had given a verdict in Civil Appeal No. 2235 of 1996, calling upon the Railways to pay royalty to Orissa Government for utilization of minor minerals for construction of Koraput-Royagada Rail Link; and

(b) whether the royalty has since been paid to the State Governemnt, if not, by when this would be paid to honour the Supreme Court verdict?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The royalty as worked out by the Railway Administration has since been paid to the State Government. However, the State Government has further preferred claims amounting to Rs. 29.69 crore. The Railway Administration had tried to sort out the issue amicably. However, getting no positive result, the Railways have approached Hon'ble High Court to Cuttack and a stay has been granted in the matter.